

SOUTH SOMERSET: GET CONNECTED

Broadband providers in South Somerset



Introduction

South Somerset District Council have produced this directory of internet service providers in South Somerset. During the Covid 19 pandemic our broadband connections have become a communication lifeline for some and are as important to our residents whether they are running their own business, employed and working from home, home schooling as well as for shopping and gaming activities. The South Somerset landscape varies between urban and rural so the broadband services can be patchy for our residents and we want to offer them the opportunity to be aware of the different types of broadband providers by offering some extra publicity. There are so many schemes, it can be confusing, but we have tried to put all the possibilities in one place and if there is something that you are unsure about or would like support for your broadband in your community please contact us at econdev@southsomerset.gov.uk.

During February, South Somerset District Council hosted a survey that gave broadband providers the opportunity to be listed within this document. We will be continuously updating this document with new providers, so if you're not included but would like to be – please complete the below survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/767BIW/>

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These providers offer residents the opportunity of superfast fibre in the South Somerset area or the equivalent speeds of superfast broadband using alternative technology where superfast fibre is unlikely to be available right now. There are lots of options so it is prudent to check what else is available to you on a comparison website. To find out what is currently available to you in terms of download/upload speeds please click on the following link: <https://checker.ofcom.org.uk/broadband-coverage>

Jurassic Fibre:



Jurassic Fibre

Business website: <https://jurassic-fibre.com/>

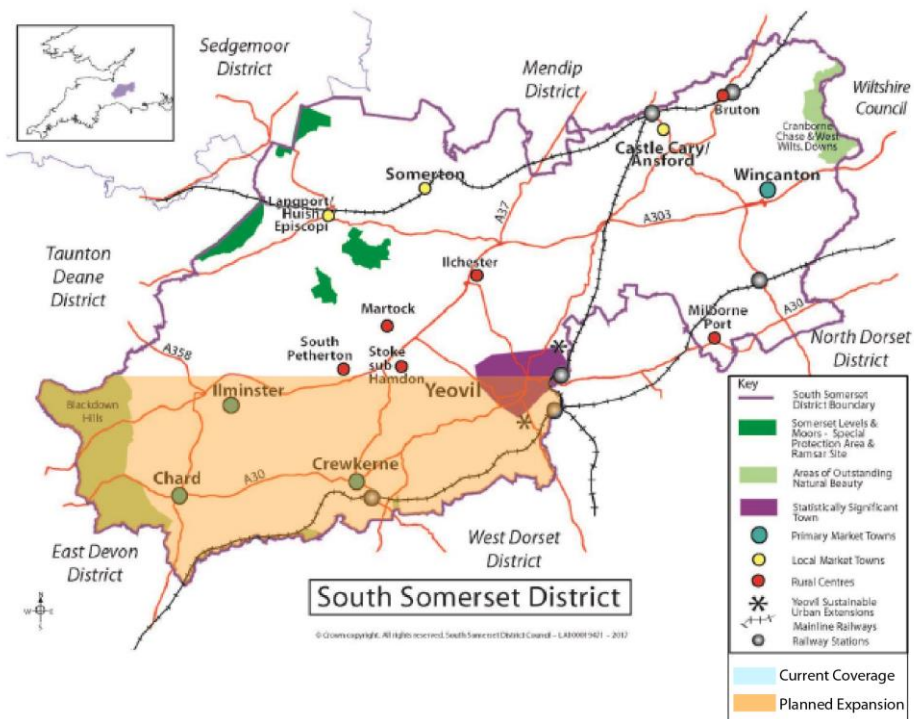
Email address: sales@jurassic-fibre.com

Telephone number: 01392 345595

Coverage:

Figure 1.1: Map of South Somerset

Jurassic Fibre Internet Coverage



Average upload speeds: 200Mbps

Average download speeds: 950Mbps



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Fees and Charges:

Residential - <https://jurassic-fibre.com/packages>

- SmartHome 30, £25/ month + free installation
 - 30Mbps Download, 10Mbps Upload
- SmartHome 100, £35/ month + free installation
 - 100Mbps Download, 20Mbps Upload
- SmartHome 300, £50/ month + free installation
 - 300Mbps Download, 60Mbps Upload
- SmartHome 500, £70/ month + free installation
 - 500Mbps Download, 100Mbps Upload
- SmartHome 950, £95/ month + free installation
 - 950Mbps Download, 200Mbps Upload

Business - <https://jurassic-fibre.com/business-users>

- SmartBiz 100, £36/ month + free installation, ex. VAT
 - 100Mbps Download, 20Mbps Upload
- SmartBiz 300, £52/ month + free installation, ex. VAT
 - 300Mbps Download, 60Mbps Upload
- SmartBiz 500, £72/ month + free installation, ex. VAT
 - 500Mbps Download, 100Mbps Upload
- SmartBiz 950, £99/ month + free installation, ex. VAT
 - 950Mbps Download, 200Mbps Upload

Activation fee: None

Usage Allowance: Unlimited

Minimum Contract Length: 1 month

Discount for South Somerset residents: Standard promotional rates are available which typically include free coverage for the first 3 months plus monthly rolling contracts which allow the customer to upgrade/downgrade their package every month as they see fit with no long term Contract.



Konnect Europe



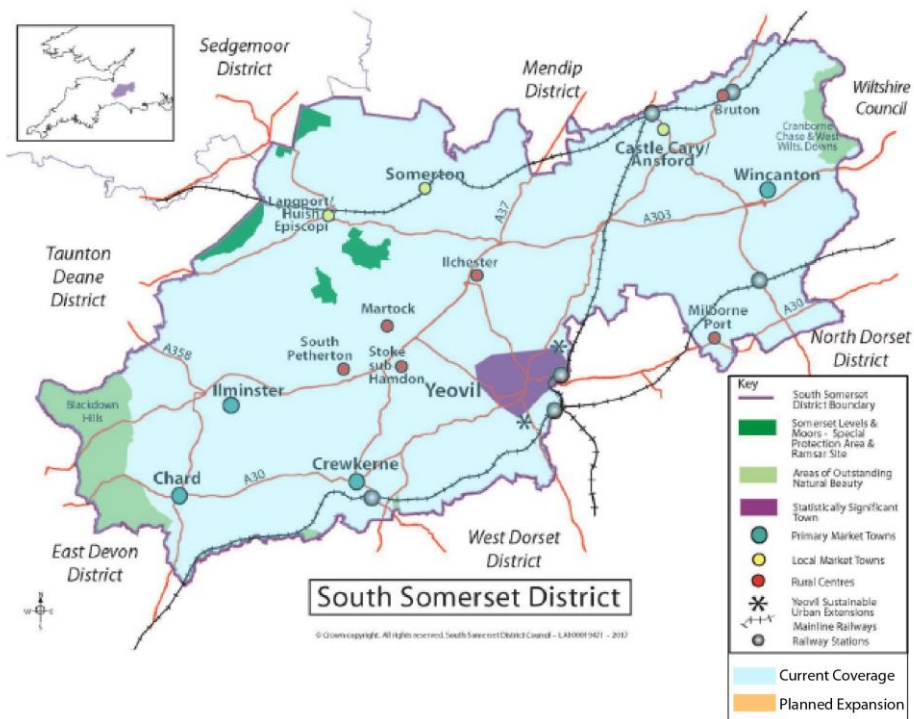
Business website: www.konnect.com

Telephone number: 01869 722854

Coverage:

Figure 1.1: Map of South Somerset

Konnect Internet Coverage



Average upload speeds: 5Mbps

Average download speeds: 22Mbps (for the "up to" 30 Mbps package) & 75 Mbps (for the "up to" 100 Mbps package).

Fees and Charges:

Average download 22 Mbps = £29.99

Average download 37 Mbps = £44.99

Average download 75 Mbps = £69.99

Activation fee: £49

Usage Allowance: Unlimited (subject to fair usage policy)

Minimum Contract Length: 12 months

Discount for South Somerset residents: None



Wessex Internet



**Wessex
Internet**

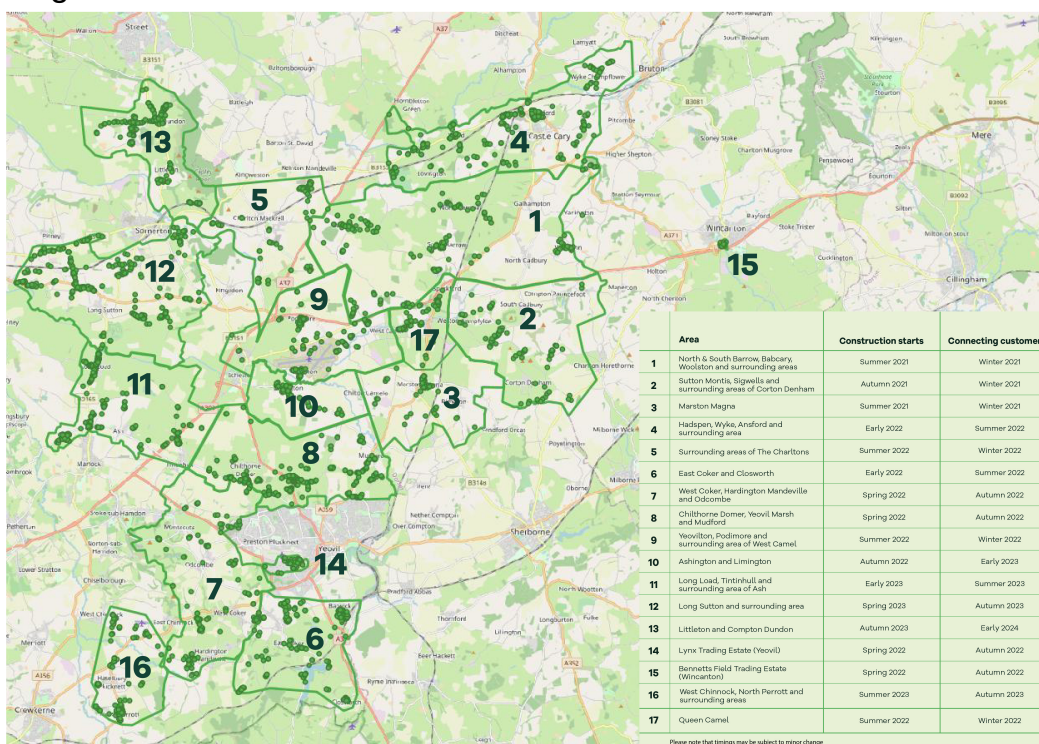
Business website: www.wessexinternet.com

Email address: info@wessexinternet.com

Telephone number: 0333 240 7997

- Wireless and full fibre broadband provider specialising in rural and hard to reach areas.
- Proven expertise in helping to set up community voucher schemes in rural areas.
- Contracted by CDS to deliver full fibre broadband to rural parts of South Somerset from 2021.

Coverage:



For a clearer image [click here](#)

Average upload speeds: 10Mbps

Average download speeds: 100Mbps



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Fees and Charges:

Find full details here: <https://www.wessexinternet.com/home-broadband-services/>

Full fibre home broadband packages:

- Full Fibre Lite - £29 per month
 - Download speed: 100Mbps
 - Upload speed: 15Mbps
 - Usage allowance: 100GB per month
- Full Fibre 100 - £44 per month
 - Download speed: 100Mbps
 - Upload speed: 30Mbps
 - Usage allowance: Unlimited
- Full Fibre 350 - £59 per month
 - Download speed: 350Mbps
 - Upload speed: 125Mbps
 - Usage allowance: Unlimited
- Full Fibre 900 - £84 per month
 - Download speed: 900Mbps
 - Upload speed: 300Mbps
 - Usage allowance: Unlimited

Full fibre small business broadband packages:

- Small Business 100 - £44 per month + VAT
 - Download speed: 100Mbps
 - Upload speed: 50Mbps
 - Usage allowance: Unlimited
- Small Business 350 - £59 per month
 - Download speed: 350Mbps
 - Upload speed: 175Mbps
 - Usage allowance: Unlimited
- Small Business 900 - £99 per month
 - Download speed: 900Mbps
 - Upload speed: 450Mbps
 - Usage allowance: Unlimited

Minimum Contract Length: 12 months

Discount for South Somerset residents: None



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Other Internet Service Providers in the area:

BT: <https://www.bt.com/broadband>

Sky: <https://www.sky.com/broadband>

Gigaclear: <https://www.gigaclear.com/home-broadband>

Talk Talk: <https://new.talktalk.co.uk/broadband/compare-deals>

Vodafone UK:

https://www.vodafone.co.uk/broadband?icmp=uk~1_consumer~topnav~1_shop~3_broadband&linkpos=topnav~1~1~3

Plusnet: <https://www.plus.net/broadband/>

Truespeed: <https://www.truespeed.com/>

Connecting Devon and Somerset

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has been set up to deliver next generation broadband infrastructure to areas where the market has failed to invest. CDS is a local government-led partnership aimed at drawing on the strengths of each sector to implement a cost efficient plan to bring superfast broadband to Devon and Somerset.

By providing subsidies to homes and businesses for alternative solutions through their voucher scheme CDS aims to ensure that as many premises within the programme area as possible have access to broadband speeds of at least 30Mbps.

CDS also has a mobile booster scheme, aimed at small businesses and households in rural communities who currently have inadequate coverage, have access to only one provider and who are currently struggling with connectivity.

The initiative, which is being funded through the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership's (HotSWLEP) Growth Deal, will offer vouchers worth £800 to enable selected premises to purchase a wireless mobile signal booster in order to improve their 4G coverage.

The Mobile Booster project aims to upgrade 4G coverage within homes and businesses in order to improve connectivity and the ability to make voice calls. The programme will focus on small business connections and will target those premises which have no adequate coverage from any operator or only one operator.

Gigabit Vouchers

The Rural Gigabit Vouchers are provided by Government to essentially gap fund rural broadband connections. Rural premises with broadband speeds of less than 100Mbps can use vouchers worth £1,500 per home and up to £3,500 for each small to medium-sized business (SME) to support the cost of installing new fast and reliable connections. Please note that with this scheme single connections are not eligible so it would need some co-ordination for businesses / residents to combine vouchers. <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk>.

Who is eligible?

- Homes and businesses with broadband speeds of less than 100Mbps Group projects are when two or more residents and/or SMEs get together to combine their vouchers.
- Must be in a rural area, find out what is defined as a 'Rural area' at <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/home/who-is-eligible/> . In order to qualify for a business voucher, you will be asked to self-certify that you meet the European Commission definition of an SME. Find out if you qualify as an SME at <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/home/who-is-eligible/>

In many instances, residents will be required to upgrade their contract to take advantage of the new fibre connections. It is not an automatic process. There are a number of reasons for this, for example: the resident may need to fulfil their contract obligations with their current provider.

If a resident lives in a very rural location, i.e. is the only one at the end of the line, and the cost is greater than the voucher amount they will be expected to make up the shortfall. This will be expensive. The maximum voucher value is £1,500.

The scheme will be live from the 8 April 2021.

Universal Service Obligation for Broadband

As of March 2020 the [Universal Service Obligation for Broadband](#) was instated. This means that residents and business have the right to legally request a decent and affordable broadband connection. If you can't get a download speed of 10 Mbit/s and an upload speed of 1Mbit/s, you can request an upgraded connection. The maximum amount that this can cost is £3,400 however you can combine this amount should nearby premises also be eligible.